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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/649,150	08/27/2003	Hiroyuki Hasegawa	450100-04700	5058

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EXAMINER	
KHAN, USMAN A	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2622	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
05/18/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/649,150	HASEGAWA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	USMAN KHAN	2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *24 February 2009*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-7 and 9-13* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-7,9-13* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *27 August 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed on 02/24/2009 with respect to claims 1, 3 - 7, and 9 - 13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

2. Regarding objection to the specification provided in the previous office action for not providing a descriptive title; Applicant has amended the title of the invention hence the objection to the title is withdrawn.

3. Claim 1 was objected to in the previous office action; Applicant has amended claim 1 to overcome the objection to claim 1.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 3 – 7, and 9 - 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato et al. (US patent NO. 6,977,676) in view of Lassiter (US patent NO. 6,624,846).

Regarding **claim 1,** Sato et al. discloses a monitoring system for monitoring a predetermined location (figure 1 item 109, PC), comprising:

a first image display portion (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 203) for storing in a storage unit image data derived (column 9 lines 58 - 67; image storage) from a first camera unit capable of taking images from different imaging directions (figures 1 and item 101 and figure 7 items 71 and 72; wide-angle cameras 71 and 72 in figure 7 when combined together are considered as one camera unit and they take images from different imaging directions), and position information associated with each set of image data (column 5 lines 10 – 18; item 114 compressed and encoded signal; also column 6 lines 1 - 9, image signal 113 is compressed and encoded and figure 5a and 5b), said first image display portion displaying either compressed images of said image data having been compressed from said first camera unit or compressed images of said image data read from said storage unit and then being compressed (column 5 lines 10 – 18; item 114 compressed and encoded signal; also column 6 lines 1 - 9, image signal 113 is compressed and encoded and figure 5a and 5b), at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein (figure 5a and 5b);

a second image display portion (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202) for deriving moving image data from a second camera unit capable of taking images from changeable directions and displaying said moving image data (figures 1 and item 110 and figure 7 item 73); and

wherein a predetermined range is selected with a first indicating display and superimposed on said first image display portion, and said moving image data is derived within said predetermined range (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 204).

However, Sato et al. fails to disclose a third image display portion for storing in a storage unit image data, derived from different positions from said first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof, with position information associated with each set of said image data derived from different positions from said first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof, said third image display portion displaying either compressed images of said image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof having been compressed from said first camera unit or compressed images of said image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof read from said storage unit and then being compressed, at a position based on associated position information, with the position information of a respective set of said image data sets derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof being assembled therein. Lassiter, on the other hand discloses a third image display portion for storing in a storage unit image data, derived from different positions from said first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof, with position information associated with each set of said image data derived from different positions from said first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof, said third image display portion displaying either

compressed images of said image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof having been compressed from said first camera unit or compressed images of said image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof read from said storage unit and then being compressed, at a position based on associated position information, with the position information of a respective set of said image data sets derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof being assembled therein.

More specifically, Lassiter discloses a third image display portion for storing in a storage unit image data, derived from different positions from said first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof (figure 9 item 901; maximum movement range when compared to item 903 using a single camera), with position information associated with each set of said image data derived from different positions from said first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof (column 7 liens 3 *et seq.*; direction and position information stored in item 103 of figure 1), said third image display portion displaying either compressed images of said image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof having been compressed from said first camera unit or compressed images of said image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof read from said storage unit and then being compressed (figure 9 item 901; maximum movement range when compared to item 903 using a single

camera), at a position based on associated position information, with the position information of a respective set of said image data sets derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof being assembled therein (column 7 liens 3 *et seq.*; direction and position information stored in item 103 of figure 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Lassiter with the teachings of Sato et al. because in column 3 lines 1 - 67 Lassiter teaches that the invention improves the visual user interface and makes it easier to control the camera.

Regarding **claim 3**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 1 Sato et al. in view of Lassiter teach all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Sato et al. teaches that said first and second image display portions make display on mutually different areas on display means (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 items 203 and 202).

Regarding **claim 4**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 1 Sato et al. in view of Lassiter teach all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Lassiter teaches that wherein display information of a range indicated by a second indicating display superimposed on said third image display portion is displayed on said first image display portion (figure 9 items 901 - 903).

Regarding **claim 5**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 4 Sato et al. in

view of Lassiter teach all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Lassiter teaches that while selection is being made with said first or second indicating displays, and during the time from said selection until starting of image-taking of said selected range, image data within said predetermined range selected with said first or second indicating displays is read out from said storage unit and displayed on said second or first image display portions (figure 9 items 901 - 903).

Regarding **claim 6**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 4 Sato et al. in view of Lassiter teach all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Lassiter teaches that upon selection of an arbitrary point on said first or third image display portion, said first or second indicating displays are superimposed on said first or third image display portion according to said selected arbitrary point (figure 9 item 902).

Regarding **claim 7,** Sato et al. discloses a monitoring method for monitoring a predetermined location (figure 1 item 109, PC), comprising:

a step for storing in a storage unit image data (column 9 lines 58 - 67; image storage), derived from a first camera unit (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 203) capable of taking images from different imaging directions (figures 1 and item 101 and figure 7 items 71 and 72; wide-angle cameras 71 and 72 in figure 7 when combined together are considered as one camera unit and they take images from different imaging directions), and position information associated with each set of image data

(column 5 lines 10 – 18; item 114 compressed and encoded signal; also column 6 lines 1 - 9, image signal 113 is compressed and encoded and figure 5a and 5b);

a step for displaying on a first image display portion, either compressed images of said image data having been compressed from said first camera unit or compressed images of said image data read from said storage unit and then being compressed (column 5 lines 10 – 18; item 114 compressed and encoded signal; also column 6 lines 1 - 9, image signal 113 is compressed and encoded and figure 5a and 5b), at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein (figure 5a and 5b);

a step for deriving moving image data from a second camera unit (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202) capable of taking images from changeable directions (figures 1 and item 110 and figure 7 item 73);

a step for displaying said moving image data on a second image display portion (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202);

wherein a predetermined range is selected with a first indicating display and superimposed on said first image display portion, and said moving image data is derived within said predetermined range (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 204).

However, Sato et al. fails to disclose a step of using a third image display portion for storing in a storage unit image data, taken of different positions with said first camera unit over all image-taking directions in the maximum movement range thereof, with position information attached to each set of image data taken over all image-taking

directions in the maximum movement range, and displaying in the third image display portion either compressed images of said taken image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof having been compressed from the first camera or compressed images of said image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof stored in said storage unit having been compressed, at a position based on corresponding position information of a respective set of said set of image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof, with position information of each of said taken image, data sets being assembled therein. Lassiter, on the other hand discloses a step of using a third image display portion for storing in a storage unit image data, taken of different positions with said first camera unit over all image-taking directions in the maximum movement range thereof, with position information attached to each set of image data taken over all image-taking directions in the maximum movement range, and displaying in the third image display portion either compressed images of said taken image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof having been compressed from the first camera or compressed images of said image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof stored in said storage unit having been compressed, at a position based on corresponding position information of a respective set of said set of image data derived from the first camera unit over all

image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof, with position information of each of said taken image, data sets being assembled therein.

More specifically, Lassiter discloses a step of using a third image display portion for storing in a storage unit image data, taken of different positions with said first camera unit over all image-taking directions in the maximum movement range thereof (figure 9 item 901; maximum movement range when compared to item 903 using a single camera), with position information attached to each set of image data taken over all image-taking directions in the maximum movement range (column 7 liens 3 *et seq.*; direction and position information stored in item 103 of figure 1), and displaying in the third image display portion either compressed images of said taken image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof having been compressed from the first camera or compressed images of said image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof stored in said storage unit having been compressed (figure 9 item 901; maximum movement range when compared to item 903 using a single camera), at a position based on corresponding position information of a respective set of said set of image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof, with position information of each of said taken image, data sets being assembled therein (column 7 liens 3 *et seq.*; direction and position information stored in item 103 of figure 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Lassiter with the teachings

of Sato et al. because in column 3 lines 1 - 67 Lassiter teaches that the invention improves the visual user interface and makes it easier to control the camera.

Regarding **claim 9**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 7 Sato et al. in view of Lassiter teach all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Sato et al. teaches that said first and second image display portions make display on mutually different areas on display means (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 items 203 and 202).

Regarding **claim 10**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 7 Sato et al. in view of Lassiter teach all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Lassiter teaches that wherein display information of a range indicated by a second indicating display superimposed on said third image display portion is displayed on said first image display portion (figure 9 items 901 - 903).

Regarding **claim 11**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 10 Sato et al. teaches all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Sato et al. teaches that while selection is being made with said first or second indicating displays, and during the time from selection with said first or second indicating displays until starting of image-taking of said selected desired range, image data within said predetermined range selected with said first or second indicating displays is read out from said storage unit and displayed on said second or first image display portion (figure 9 items 901 - 903).

Regarding **claim 12**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 10 Sato et al. teaches all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Sato et al. teaches that upon an arbitrary point on said first or third image display portion being selected, said first or second indicating displays are superimposed on said first or third image display portion according to said selected arbitrary point (figure 9 item 902).

Regarding **claim 13,** Sato et al. discloses a computer-readable medium encoded with a program (column 3 lines 4 – 21, column 6 lines 29 – 58, and column 7 liens 4 *et seq.*) for causing a computer to execute a monitoring method for monitoring a predetermined location (figure 1 item 109, PC) by:

storing in a storage unit image data (column 9 lines 58 - 67; image storage), derived from a first camera unit (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 203) capable of taking images from different imaging directions (figures 1 and item 101 and figure 7 items 71 and 72; wide-angle cameras 71 and 72 in figure 7 when combined together are considered as one camera unit and they take images from different imaging directions), and position information associated with each set of image data (column 5 lines 10 – 18; item 114 compressed and encoded signal; also column 6 lines 1 - 9, image signal 113 is compressed and encoded and figure 5a and 5b);

displaying on a first image display portion, either compressed images of said image data having been compressed from said first camera unit or compressed images of said image data read from said storage unit and then being compressed (column 5

lines 10 – 18; item 114 compressed and encoded signal; also column 6 lines 1 - 9, image signal 113 is compressed and encoded and figure 5a and 5b), at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein (figure 5a and 5b);

deriving moving image data from a second camera unit (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202) capable of taking images from changeable directions (figures 1 and item 110 and figure 7 item 73);

displaying said moving image data on a second image display portion (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202);

wherein a predetermined range is selected with a first indicating display and superimposed on said first image display portion, and said moving image data is derived within said predetermined range (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 204).

However, Sato et al. fails to disclose using a third image display portion for storing in a storage unit image data, taken of different positions with said first camera unit over all image-taking directions in the maximum movement range thereof, with position information attached to each set of image data taken over all image-taking directions in the maximum movement range, and displaying in the third image display portion either compressed images of said taken image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof having been compressed from the first camera or compressed images of said image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum

movement range thereof stored in said storage unit having been compressed, at a position based on corresponding position information of a respective set of said set of image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof being assembled therein. Lassiter, on the other hand discloses using a third image display portion for storing in a storage unit image data, taken of different positions with said first camera unit over all image-taking directions in the maximum movement range thereof, with position information attached to each set of image data taken over all image-taking directions in the maximum movement range, and displaying in the third image display portion either compressed images of said taken image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof having been compressed from the first camera or compressed images of said image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof stored in said storage unit having been compressed, at a position based on corresponding position information of a respective set of said set of image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof being assembled therein.

More specifically, Lassiter discloses using a third image display portion for storing in a storage unit image data, taken of different positions with said first camera unit over all image-taking directions in the maximum movement range thereof (figure 9 item 901; maximum movement range when compared to item 903 using a single camera), with position information attached to each set of image data taken over all

image-taking directions in the maximum movement range (column 7 liens 3 *et seq.*; direction and position information stored in item 103 of figure 1), and displaying in the third image display portion either compressed images of said taken image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof having been compressed from the first camera or compressed images of said image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof stored in said storage unit having been compressed (figure 9 item 901; maximum movement range when compared to item 903 using a single camera), at a position based on corresponding position information of a respective set of said set of image data derived from the first camera unit over all image-taking directions in a maximum movement range thereof being assembled therein (column 7 liens 3 *et seq.*; direction and position information stored in item 103 of figure 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Lassiter with the teachings of Sato et al. because in column 3 lines 1 - 67 Lassiter teaches that the invention improves the visual user interface and makes it easier to control the camera.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE**

FINAL. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

6. a shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Usman Khan whose telephone number is (571) 270-1131. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 6:45-3:15.
8. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Chan can be reached on (571) 272-3022. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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